

During his escape with the farmer's horse, Jack Hannaford felt his stomach growling with hunger. Near the road, he spotted a small town and thought he might find some food to sustain himself for the rest of the day.

When he arrived in the town, he led the horse to a fountain, where the animal began drinking water. Meanwhile, some residents and merchants watched curiously at the unknown man riding the horse of a farmer well-known in the region.

Suddenly, a baker selling bread and cakes at a small stall shouted to Jack Hannaford:

"Hey, what are you doing with the farmer's horse?"

Jack Hannaford, quick and persuasive, looked at the man and replied confidently:

"Oh, you're the baker the farmer spoke so highly about! He asked me to come and fetch some bread because he's expecting important guests at his house."

The merchant, a bit confused, relaxed and took note of Jack Hannaford's order:

"The farmer asked me to get 4 loaves of bread and 2 cakes. His family is large. We came from a neighboring town, 500 kilometers away—almost the distance from the ground to the sky."

Although he found it a bit odd, the merchant decided not to question him. When Jack Hannaford received the bread and cakes, he made a face as if searching his pockets and finding nothing.

He then said in a worried tone:

"I think I left my money in my travel bag. Could you hold onto these breads and cakes so I can return later to pay you?"

Noticing his tired expression and his demeanor like someone who had been traveling for days, the merchant said:

"Don't worry. Take the bread and cakes. The farmer is well-known here. You can come back and settle the payment another time."

Jack Hannaford, realizing his plan had worked, smiled, arranged the goods on the horse, thanked the merchant, and left, disappearing over the horizon.

Shortly after Jack Hannaford left the town, the farmer arrived, panting and exhausted, asking everyone if they had seen a man pass by with his horse. The merchant, confused, replied:

"Yes, a man just left here with your horse. He said he was heading to your house. But I found it strange that he went in the opposite direction."

The farmer, collapsing to the ground in exhaustion, lamented:

"First, he steals my riches. What a fool my wife was! Then, he tricks me with the story of a man coming down from the sky. What a fool I was! And now he escapes with my horse. What else could go wrong?"

The merchant, holding back laughter, replied:

"Look, I understand that sometimes we face tough situations. I would even give you a piece of bread to recover your energy, but he took all my bread."

The farmer looked at the merchant, shocked, and asked:

"He robbed you too?"

With a carefree smile, the merchant replied:

"No, he made your situation worse. He took bread and cakes and left you to pay the bill."